SUBJECTS.

Mr. T. Kumara Pillai (Member, Kalkulam Taluk) and *Mr. Subramonia Karayalan* (Member, Shencottah Taluk) supported him.

Dewan's reply.—This matter is engaging the consideration of Government.

32. *Grazing and manure grounds.*

Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi further requested that grounds should be set apart for the grazing of cattle and the cultivation of green manure.

Dewan's reply.—This matter is under correspondence.

33. *Sale of timber at tariff rates.*

Mr. P. Parameswaran Pillai (Member, Pattanapuram Taluk) spoke of the difficulty in getting good timber. Once in 3 months or so, timber was being sold in auction in large lots and not in small quantities, nor at times when people have a necessity for it. He requested that timber might be sold from depôts at tariff rates.

Dewan's reply.—The present practice is for all timber to be cut and brought to the depôts. The bulk of the teak, ebony and blackwood is sold to a Bombay firm which has taken a contract for their purchase at fixed rates. The timber of the above three species which is not purchased by the above firm, as well as timber of all other kinds, are sold either by auction, or at tariff rates, whichever may be most profitable to Government. No change can be made in this matter.

34. *Royal trees not to be reserved nor prohibited from being grown on private land.*

Mr. Subramonia Karayalan (Member, Shencottah Taluk) said that the reservation of royal trees and the prohibition of cultivation of such trees on private lands were detrimental to the increase of wealth among the subjects and that the restriction ought to be removed. He remarked that, in the interests of the landowners and the general public, it was highly necessary that the landowners should be given free scope for making use of their land to the greatest possible advantage, by allowing them to cultivate the best products suitable to the soil and take them for their own benefit.

Dewan's reply.—Government have full right of property in teak, ebony, blackwood and sandalwood, wherever they may be grown. Under the rules framed under the Forest Regulation, when a teak, ebony, blackwood or sandalwood tree is cut from a private land, the owner of such land gets a fourth of the value, Government taking the other three-fourths. There is no objection to a private landowner growing a monopoly tree on his land. The present practice cannot be altered.

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